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MEDIA RELEASE

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state + weeklies

FIVE SCHOLARSHIPS TO BE GIVEN AT MONTANA SCIENCE FAIR

MISSOULA--

Montana high school and junior high students competing in the 29th annual Montana Science Fair will be eligible for several awards, according to Len Porter, science fair director.

The fair will be held April 13 and 14 in the Harry Adams Field House at the University of Montana. The deadline to enter exhibits is April 2.

The science fair, sponsored by UM and the Missoula Exchange Club, attracted 289 entrants last year.

The UM Foundation sponsors four \$750 scholarships to UM. Seniors receiving superior ratings are eligible for these awards. In addition, the Missoula Exchange Club offers a \$500 scholarship.

Gold medals will be given to the boy and the girl who are grand award winners in the high school category. They also will receive an expense-paid trip to represent Montana at the International Science and Engineering Fair May 8-12 in Columbus, Ohio.

Winners in the seventh and eighth grade categories will receive silver and bronze medals.

Scholarship and award winners will be announced Friday, April 13, and the scholarships will be given at the awards banquet at noon Saturday, April 14.

Porter said that if a scholarship is declined within two weeks, it will be awarded to an alternate.

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science fair scholarships--add one

The fair has 12 categories in the high school division (grades 9 to 12): biochemistry, medicine and health, microbiology, physics, engineering, mathematics, zoology, behavioral and social sciences, chemistry, botany, earth and space sciences, and environmental sciences.

Science teachers select entrants, or if no formal competition is held in their school, students may enter on their own. The fair's exhibits will be evaluated by about 100 judges, mostly UM faculty or graduate students.

The fair, one of four in the Northwest, provides students with intermediate-level competition between local fairs and the national fair.

Montana Science Fair winners have received awards at the international fair 21 out of the 28 years entered. Porter estimates that 7,650 Montana students have competed in the fair.

Registration forms and detailed information have been mailed to school science teachers. Additional packets may be obtained by contacting Dr. Len Porter, Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Montana, Missoula, MT 59812.

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